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Energy Policy

Mr. CARPER. I thank the Senator.

Madam President, on a brighter note, with respect to energy policy, a week or so ago we passed a major bill called FSC/ETI. Some people call it the JOBS bill or a trade bill. But provisions of the Energy bill were incorporated in that legislation, important provisions that include incentives for renewable forms of energy-solar, wind, geothermal—and incentives to encourage people to buy more energy-efficient vehicles, hybrids, fuel-cell vehicles, to make them more affordable, to get more of them out on the road, and using less gasoline and diesel fuel, and also incentives for us to begin converting to a greater use of what I call biofuels-ethanol-and something we do in Delaware a lot on the Delmarva Peninsula where we take soybean oil and mix it with diesel fuel.

They were able to do something good for the environment and actually reduce significantly our use of diesel-powered vehicles.

While it is still mid-May, we have a fair amount of time to go before we finish here. Before we finish, I hope we will find common ground on the rest of the energy policy, and that it is also respective of our environment and the clean air concerns we have, and gives the States the ability to recover damages for their drinking supply that has been damaged by MTBE.